

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed on December 4, 2003, claims 29-34, 36-44 and 46-52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Noro; claims 35 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noro; and objections were made to claims 31 and 41. The objections to claims 31 and 41 and the §§ 102 and 103 rejections are discussed below.

Objections to Claims 31 and 41:

The Examiner objects to claims 31 and 41 because of the recitation of "the digital camera." However, these claims contain antecedent bases for this language. More specifically, claim 31 recites in lines 1 and 2 that the imaging device includes a digital camera. Thus, lines 1 and 2 of claim 31 provide the antecedent basis for the digital camera in line 3 of claim 31. Similarly, lines 1 and 2 of claim 41 recite that the imaging device includes a digital camera. This provides an antecedent basis for the digital camera that appears in line 4 of claim 41.

Thus, withdrawal of the objections to claims 31 and 41 is requested.

§§ 102 and 103 Rejections of Claims 29-38:

The method of independent claim 1 includes accumulating commands generated by the execution of an application program and triggering transmission of all of the accumulated commands to an imaging device in response to the determination that one of the commands is an action command.

Contrary to the limitations of claim 29, Noro fails to teach or even suggest the triggering of claim 29. More specifically, referring to Figure 9 in Noro, Noro teaches transmitting a simple control command (diamond S16) or a normal control command (diamond S17). More particularly, Noro discloses transmitting one of these commands to the camera if the camera is not in operation (pursuant to diamond S20). Noro does not explicitly state accumulating commands. However, Applicant recognizes that if the camera is in operation, Noro may arguably teach accumulating commands until the camera is again in operation. However, even

assuming, for purposes of argument, that Noro provides this teaching, Noro does not teach or even suggest triggering the transmission of all accumulated commands to the camera *in response* to the determination that one of the commands is an action command. (*emphasis added*).

Rather, in Noro, the triggering of all accumulated commands would be in response to the camera not being in operation, and not in response to one of the commands being an action command.

Therefore, Noro fails to teach or even suggest all of the limitations of independent claim 29 and thus, Noro fails to anticipate this claim.

Claims 30-38 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

Rejections of Claims 39-48:

The article of independent claim 39 includes a storage medium that stores instructions to cause a processor-based system to accumulate commands that are generated by the execution of an application program and trigger the transmission of all of the accumulated commands to the imaging device in response to the determination that one of the commands is an action command.

Contrary to the limitations of independent claim 39, Noro neither teaches nor even suggests instructions to cause a processor-based system to trigger the transmission of accumulated commands to an imaging device in response to the determination that one of the commands is the action command. Rather, assuming, for purposes of argument, that the flow depicted in Figure 9 of Noro teaches accumulating commands, the triggering of the transmission of all of the accumulated commands to the camera occurs in response to the camera no longer being in operation, pursuant to depicted step S20, and not in response to the determination that one of the accumulated commands is an action command. Thus, Noro fails to teach or even suggest the limitations of independent claim 39.

Claims 40-48 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from allowable claims.

§§ 102 and 103 Rejections of Claims 49-52:

The system of independent claim 49 includes a computer that is coupled to a serial bus. The computer executes an application program to generate commands and triggers transmission of all of the accumulated commands to the imaging device via the serial bus in response to the determination that one of the commands is an action command.

Contrary to the limitations of independent claim 49, Noro neither teaches nor even suggests execution of an application program to trigger transmission of accumulated commands to an imaging device in response to the determination that one of the commands is an action command, for the reasons set forth above.

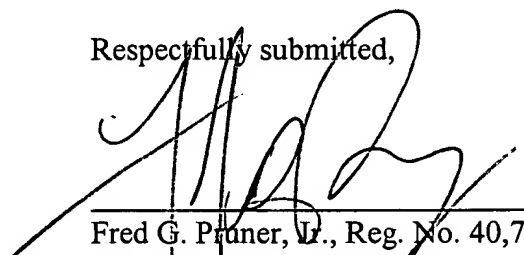
Thus, because Noro fails to teach or suggest all limitations of independent claim 49, withdrawal of the § 102 rejection of this claim is requested. Claims 50-52 are patentable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable claim.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, withdrawal of the §§ 102 and 103 rejections and a favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (ITL.0071US).

Respectfully submitted,

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